

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today issued the following statement in honor of Memorial Day:

“This weekend, we honor and remember the brave men and women in uniform who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. Memorial Day is a reminder of their selfless dedication and service for which we are grateful every day of the year.

“On this Memorial Day, I will remember especially the 290 servicemen and women from Florida who have lost their lives in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. As we pay tribute to these heroes and offer them and their families our sincerest respect and gratitude, we are reminded of the true cost of our freedom.

“Each year, my family reflects on the life of my Uncle Tom, after whom I was named and for whom I named my oldest son. Tom was a Marine, and he died on Guam at age 18. I am proud to carry on the name of such a courageous and patriotic young American hero.”

Rooney is a member of the House Armed Services Committee. He and his wife Tara served in the U.S. Army JAG Corps, and he later taught at the United States Military Academy.

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